

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. An altitude protection device for members of ~~a~~ the crew of high-performance aircraft as a supplement to an acceleration protection suit according to ~~a~~ the hydrostatic principle (G-suit (1)), which comprises a high-strength stretch-resistant woven textile fabric, the device comprising:

a plurality of liquid-filled veins extending (6) that extend essentially along an the entire length of the G-suit; ~~(1); characterised in that they comprise:~~

at least one tension pocket ~~(2)~~ made from a textile fabric with characteristics that are comparable to those of the G-suit ~~(1)~~, ~~the at least one tension pocket extends which tension pocket (2) at least along both edges that extend essentially so as to be perpendicular to a the~~ direction of tension and is in a non-positive way connected to the said G-suit, wherein (1) so that inflation of the at least one tension pocket (2) leads to a reduction in a the distance of these vertical connections;

~~in each case at least one gas-proof bladder (4) for each tension pocket (2), comprising an elastic plastic material;~~

at least one pressure pocket ~~(3)~~ made of a stretch-resistant textile fabric, the at least one ~~which pressure pocket being (3) is attached on an the inside region on of~~ the G-suit ~~(1)~~ along a line that is arranged so as to be perpendicular on the direction of tension so that inflation of the at least one pressure pocket ~~(3)~~ does not result in ~~any significant change in a the~~ circumferential tension of the G-suit ~~(1)~~; and

a plurality of gas-proof bladders for each of the at least one tension pocket and the at least one pressure pocket; and

wherein the plurality of gas-proof bladders comprises an elastic plastic material.

~~in each case at least one gas-proof bladder (4) for each pressure pocket (3), comprising an elastic plastic material.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, wherein:

the plurality of gas-proof bladders include at least two gas-proof bladders; characterised in that the bladders (4), of which there are at least two;

wherein the plurality of gas-proof bladders comprise a knitted distance fabric for allocating to the plurality of gas-proof bladders (5), which allocates to them a predetermined minimum volume even under mechanical load.

3. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 2, further comprising:  
characterised in that there is precisely

one tension pocket including (2) with one gas-proof bladder; (4), which

wherein the tension pocket (2) is attached to a the back piece of the G-suit (1) in such a way that it comes to rest between the plurality of liquid-filled veins (6) that extend on a the rear region of the G-suit; (1); and

that there are precisely two pressure pockets, each of the two pressure pockets including (3), each with a gas-proof bladder (4), attached in a the stomach region on the inside region of the G-suit (1).

4. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, further comprising:

two tension pockets, each of the two tension pockets including the gas-proof bladder;

wherein, at sea level, the two tension pockets are any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that the tension pocket (2), of which there is at least one, at sea level is partly filled by the gas-proof bladder; and bladder (4) arranged inside it, and thus the

wherein when ambient bladder (4) when the ambient pressure decreases, the gas-proof bladder is operable to first fill in a fills in the volume of each of the two tension pockets pocket

(2) before an expansion of the gas-proof bladder ~~its expansion~~ leads to a significant increase in the circumferential tension of the G-suit (4).

5. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, wherein any one of claims 2 to 4, characterised in that at least one gas-proof bladder (4) comprises at least one bridge (7), wherein the at least one bridge which, when the bladder (4) is subjected to increased pressure, delays an the expansion of the at least one gas-proof bladder in a said bladder (4) in the bridge plane when the at least one gas-proof bladder is subjected to increased pressure.

6. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, further comprising:

one tension pocket including the gas-proof bladder; and

wherein the tension pocket and the gas-proof bladder any one of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the tension pocket (2), of which there is at least one, and the bladder (4) contained therein are dimensioned such that the tension pocket (2) significantly contributes to an increase in the circumferential tension of the G-suit (4) only from an atmospheric pressure that corresponds to an altitude of between about 5,500 meters metres above sea level to about 7,600 meters metres above sea level.

7. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, further comprising:

one tension pocket including one gas-proof bladder of the plurality of gas-proof bladders;

one pressure pocket including one gas-proof bladder of the plurality of gas-proof bladders;

wherein the tension pocket including the gas-proof bladder and the pressure pocket including the gas-proof bladder any one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the tension pocket (2), of which there is at least one, and the pressure pocket (3) of which there is at least one, as well as the bladders (4) contained therein, are dimensioned such that the tension pocket pockets (2) essentially attains a their maximum volume from an atmospheric pressure which corresponds

to a the maximum operational altitude of the high-performance aircraft.

8. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, wherein:

~~the any one of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that~~ at least one gas-proof bladder (4) is connected to an additional volume arranged outside the G-suit; ~~(4);~~

wherein, when ~~the~~ ambient pressure drops, an ~~this~~ additional volume remains constant from a ~~the~~ point of reaching a predefined ambient pressure; ~~and, and, furthermore,~~

wherein a ~~the~~ quantity of gas contained therein essentially contributes entirely to building up tension in the at least one gas-proof bladder (4).

9. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 8, wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the additional volume arranged outside the G-suit (4) comprises an additional elastic bladder (9) ~~that is~~ accommodated in an additional pocket, wherein the additional pocket is ~~(10) that is~~ made from a stretch-resistant textile fabric; and comprises a line connecting (8), ~~wherein the line (8) connects~~ the additional bladder (9) with the at least one gas-proof bladder (4).

10. (Currently Amended) The altitude protection device according to claim 1, wherein the device is operable to provide ~~use of an altitude protection device according to any one of claims 1 to 9 as~~ altitude protection for crew members of high-flying aircraft.